

AIM

100 FAIR STREET, PETALUMA, CA 94952 ♦ 707•763•3300 ♦ FAX 707•763•6489 ♦ E-mail aimusotia@metro.net

30 December 1999

Donna Shalala, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to express my concern over weakening labeling requirements for genetically engineered and irradiated foods that are being considered by the U.S. Food and Drug administration. I strongly believe that it is my right to know what food has been treated with radiation or genetically engineered.

Food products undergo chemical changes after exposure to radioactive isotopes. These cosmetic and nutritional changes in foods warrant disclosure on a prominent place on the package. All genetically engineered foods should be labeled as **Genetically Engineered Food** and/or **Irradiated Food**. Labels are required by law to be truthful and not misleading to the customer. Food that is not packaged should be accompanied by a poster with **Genetically Engineered Food** and/or **Irradiated Food** labeling in plain view of where it is displayed for sale. I believe that only clear, honest and permanent labeling is acceptable for foods that are genetically engineered or exposed to radiation.

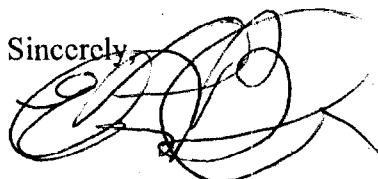
I hope that you will defend the consumer's right to know in this important decision-making process. I pay special attention to labeling issues and I will be watching to see what progress you take. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



A. George Beeler
Principal Architect

Sincerely,



Ellen L. Beeler
Teacher

98N-1038

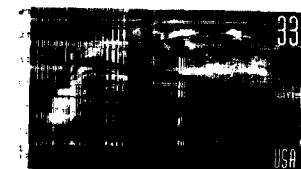
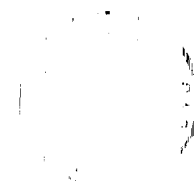
C5022

CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N 1038/C5022

See File Number: 99N 4282/C929

AIM ASSOCIATES
ARCHITECTURE AND INTERACTIVE MANAGEMENT
100 FAIR STREET, PETALUMA, CA 94952-2515



**DONNA SHALALA, SECRETARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
200 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201**

